

Executive Registry
78-3979/A

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The Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

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OLC 78- 3392/a

Honorable Birch Bayh, Chairman
Select Committee on Intelligence
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of notification (Q#3392) regarding the establishment of a consultant panel to advise the Select Committee on reconnaissance questions. It is my hope that considerable benefit will result from the study of the panel, and I believe this can be maximized if the panel takes a more general and long-range approach to the issues, rather than specifically reviewing and commenting on the FY-1980 budget recommendations.

The Intelligence Community will cooperate fully in assisting the panel, and we would appreciate being informed of its conclusions and recommendations.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ STANSFIELD TURNER

STANSFIELD TURNER

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FREDERICK P. HITZ

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We have delayed responding to this letter until we had the opportunity to discuss the matter with Bill Miller. He informs us the panel will not really get underway until January, and the Committee hopes to know their preliminary views by March or April (in time for budget mark-up) and have their final report by mid-year. The Committee has yet to work out details of where the panel will be located, how they will request material, etc. We will keep you apprised of our discussions with staff.

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